



General Assembly

Substitute Bill No. 371

February Session, 2006

* SB00371GAE__032306__ *

**AN ACT CONCERNING RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES OPERATED BY
THE DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) Notwithstanding any
2 provision of the general statutes, on and before January 1, 2009, no
3 state agency, including, but not limited to, the Department of Children
4 and Families, may implement a plan to close a residential facility
5 operated by the Department of Children and Families without
6 obtaining prior legislative approval of the plan in accordance with this
7 section. In developing such plan, if any, the relevant state agency shall
8 consult with the chairpersons and ranking members of the joint
9 standing committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of
10 matters relating to appropriations, human services and the judiciary,
11 and the select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance
12 of matters relating to children.

13 (b) To obtain such legislative approval, the state agency shall file the
14 plan with the clerks of the House of Representatives and the Senate.
15 The plan shall include details about (1) the proposed closure and any
16 proposed new facility; (2) the number of residents and staff affected by
17 the proposed closure and the number of potential residents of any
18 proposed new facility; (3) the associated costs of the proposed closure
19 and any proposed new facility; and (4) a summary of statutory

20 changes necessary to implement the closure or construction of a
21 proposed new facility.

22 (c) Not later than five days after receiving the plan, the clerks of the
23 House of Representatives and the Senate shall refer the plan to the
24 select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
25 matters relating to children. The committee shall hold a public hearing
26 on the plan not later than thirty days after receiving the plan. The
27 committee may seek input from other committees or members of the
28 General Assembly. Not later than five days after the hearing, the
29 committee shall (1) hold a roll-call vote to approve or reject the plan, in
30 whole, and (2) forward the plan and a record of the committee's vote to
31 the General Assembly.

32 (d) The General Assembly may approve or reject the plan, in whole,
33 by a majority vote of each house. If the plan is submitted when the
34 General Assembly is not in session, the plan shall be deemed rejected if
35 the General Assembly fails to convene to consider the plan not later
36 than thirty days after it receives the plan from the committee.

37 (e) If the plan is approved pursuant to subsection (d) of this section,
38 the state agency may implement the plan, provided any required
39 amendments to the general statutes are enacted prior to
40 implementation. If the plan is rejected pursuant to subsection (d) of
41 this section, the state agency may submit an amended plan for
42 approval in accordance with subsection (b) of this section.

43 Sec. 2. (*Effective October 1, 2006*) Not later than December 1, 2006, the
44 Commissioner of Children and Families shall submit a report to the
45 select committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of
46 matters relating to children, in accordance with section 11-4a of the
47 general statutes, concerning the status of the Connecticut Juvenile
48 Training School. The report shall indicate the number of residents at
49 the school, whether the number of residents has increased or decreased
50 in the past calendar year, and whether plans are being considered to
51 close the school or otherwise transfer residents to another facility. The

52 report shall include details about such plan, if any.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>from passage</i>	New section
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	New section

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

Throughout subsection (b) of section 1, "the proposed closure and any proposed new facility" was substituted for "any proposed closure or new facility" for accuracy and consistency with subsection (a), and in subsection (c), "in whole" was inserted for accuracy and consistency with subsection (d).

KID	<i>Joint Favorable Subst. C/R</i>	HS
HS	<i>Joint Favorable C/R</i>	GAE
GAE	<i>Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO</i>	